



VOLUME LXXI NUMBER 2

FEBRUARY 2024



EBARC Meetings

February 9, 2024

**Universalist
Unitarian Church
of Berkeley,
Safir Room
1 Lawson Rd.,
Kensington, CA**

Check your email for Zoom link.



The Executive Board meets monthly before each general
meeting at 6:30 PM

Welcome EBARC Members to the second edition of the Blown Fuse for 2024.

**The Masthead is now back to the original, showing a blown fuse which I
accidently changed in trying to make it fit the page.**

**Please plan to join us at the meeting on February 9 in-person or on the Zoom
Link.**

**Thanks to members who brought refreshments to the January meeting, Mike
Camp and Karen Fenton!**

The Blown Fuse is published monthly by the East Bay Amateur Radio Club, Inc. and is free to its members. *The Blown Fuse* welcomes articles of interest to its members and amateur radio in general. *The Blown Fuse* reserves the right to edit or reject any material submitted. Material submitted becomes the property of *The Blown Fuse*. Permission is hereby granted to reproduce material printed herein provided proper acknowledgment is given. Editor: Audrey Nieman W6BBQ
Deadline for March Issue: Feb. 24,

**Treasurer's Report EBARC
January 24, 2024
Audrey Nieman W6BBQ, Treasurer**

Beginning Balance	
1/12/2024	\$8965.44
Income	
Dues	\$ 190.00
Total Income	\$ 190.00
Disbursements:	\$.00
Ending Balance	\$9155.44
Portion as Petty Cash	\$ 40.00
Portion as CD	\$5000.00

President's Message

EBARC was approached by the Digital Library of Amateur Radio & Communications, an online archive which proposes to store EBARC's Club Newsletter, the Blown Fuse. Your Board has expressed support for the proposal and we're working on the details. The proposal caused me to look back in time at newsletters from the past. Wow!!!! The club seemed to be humming with activity. We're doing less, now. It's made me think about how we can revive those activities in ways that are fun and challenging in a good way. The pandemic seems to have disrupted the continuity of members interactions. In my case I've wanted to be involved with doing radio support of events like bike rides and hikes, but I've not felt experienced enough to lead such efforts. Ditto, with Fox Hunting. EBARC had an HF weekly net when I joined but that was during a period of poor propagation. It would be a few years before I invested in HF gear to participate. By the time I thought I was ready, it was gone. Leading a POTA activation makes me anxious as I've not had a mentor to guide me (though I recently bought a book on the matter and will be reading it soon). Then there is EmComm which is being operated by our nearby clubs very well. I think I'm not alone having these feelings. I would like to ask our long-time members for suggestions on how to restart these activities. What resources are needed? How many people make for a successful activity? When are the best times to do these activities? For now, I'll leave it at that and hope members who enjoyed doing the activities can and will write in to offer suggestions. It would be nice and good if we could develop some training sessions to allow these past activities to return. Write to me at thteach@sonic.net or ebham.office@gmail.com. In the meantime, Winter Field Day is on January 27th and I plan to operate for as long as the weather and the equipment I will bring, will let me do so. Hope you will be able to join me. Todd, W8BIK

Minutes of the January Meeting

January 11, 2024, General Meeting Minutes

The EBARC General Meeting on Friday January 11, 2024, was held as a hybrid meeting. The In-Person meeting occurred at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley (UUCB) located at 1 Lawson Road, Kensington CA 94707-1015. The on-line meeting was held via the Zoom internet conferencing application. There were 8 people that attended in person, there were 6 people that attended on-line. The meeting announcement was distributed via e-mail on January 6, 2024. President Todd Teachout, W8BIK called the meeting to order at 7:41 PM. President Todd welcomed the members and hoped they all had good holidays. He asked for self-introductions and what each has been up to lately. From the zoom group Morrie KK6MO said not much but hope to do more soon; Alvin KK6UQX said he had been emailing DJ; Robin N6RLS said he plans to attend more meetings; Lorraine KN6CRT said she would like to learn more and could use an "Elmer". From those in attendance, Jay KJ6WSS said that he has been working on 7 radio boxes, and he hopes to have them portable and ready to roll out the door soon. He showed one of them at the joint Christmas Party in December. Robin KE6MRH said she just got her GMRS license; Mike KI7FQ said he is trying to make more contacts; Jan AC5RB said she has been enjoying the nets and reminded everyone to use their "outdoor" voice at the meetings and on the air; Karen KK6ZPM said she keeps preaching for learning and encouraging others; Audrey W6BBQ said she has been busy; Howdy KE6BEE said he has been busy too; Todd W8BIK said his transmissions have been fuzzy from Hercules; sometimes 2 meters is clearer, and sometimes 440 is clearer. He is going to keep trying.

MINUTES: President Todd W8BIK asked if there were any additions or corrections to the December 2023 minutes as sent out. Hearing none, it was moved and seconded to accept them. MOTION CARRIED.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Audrey W6BBQ gave the treasurer's report with an ending balance of \$9,223.12. It reflected income from dues and the monthly payment of rent and storage. Petty cash is \$40.00, and the CD is \$5,000. She reminded everyone that membership dues are due now. The cost is \$35.00 per member, or \$45 per family. Students pay \$10.00.

VICE PRESIDENT PROGRAMS REPORT: Howdy KE6BEE said he would like to reach out to members for suggestions for future meetings. Today he is presenting information about FREE DV.

President Todd W8BIK announced some events coming up.

January 17 VHF-UHF FT8 Activity contest

January 18-19 Walk for the Bacon
qprcontest.com/pigwalk20

January 18 NAQCC-CW Sprint
naqcc.info/sprint_rules.html

January 20 Feld Hell Sprint
sites.google.com/site/feldhellclub

January 21 RSG8 AFS Contest, data
www.rsbcc.org

January 26 CQ 160m Contest CW January 27 UBA
DX Contest

www.uba.be/en/hfcontest-rules

January 27-28 Winter Field Day

January 12-31 Various DX Peditions (28 in this period)

Minutes continued

Old Business:

WEBSITE:

President Todd W8BIK announced the website has been restored and updated. Any ideas or suggestions are welcome.

WINTER FIELD DAY- It was discussed to participate with Karo-Echo on Saturday January 27 in the parking lot of the Church. Set up time is around noon, and it will go until around 4-5 PM. Some people will bring their own equipment; we need to figure power sources, some solar, some battery. Randall KK6UPI said he would put a notice in the Church Bulletin. He also said we could use the parking lot as it would not interfere with Church activities, just not the front parking lot. The kid's playground would be OK to use too, since there is no day care on Saturdays. There are also power connections on the North Wall. There would be sign-ins to make ourselves known and for guests to become more acquainted with our ham radio work.

BLOWN FUSE- Audrey has agreed to take on bringing back the Blown Fuse. She welcomes ideas, suggestions, and advice.

PRESENTATION by Howdy Goudey: FREE DV

Digital voice mode is a multi-platform software to connect computer- phone-radio with 100% copy. They have received a 2-year grant from ARDC to work analog-digital over the air. The tones and background noises are taken out. There is very little static. For more information check out

<https://qso.freedv.org/> (all small letters) also

<https://pskreporter.info/pskmap.html>

https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1IO-IEB-1Cfz1_gfqwZo3OpPp3jUq27hLZ7zZfh5tnQM/edit?usp=sharing

Meeting adjourned 9:10 PM

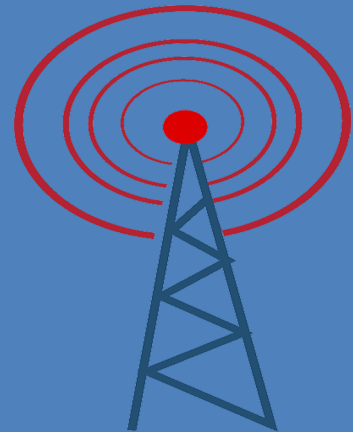
Respectfully Submitted
Jan Kuhl, Secretary

PENDING ITEMS

CLUB Station: Still on-hold pending meetings with the UUCB Faith Leader, and Executive Director and/or other UUCB personnel.

Vacancies:

- Club Activities, 2nd VP
- Membership, 3rd VP
- Blown Fuse Permanent Editor
- Licensed Volunteer Examiners& Testing
- Coordinator Radio Operator License Test Prep
- Instructors Community Support (Sports events, scouting, Maker Faires)



The East Bay Amateur Radio Club, founded in 1947, is a California non-profit organization of amateur radio operators in Contra Costa and Alameda counties. The club is open to anyone interested in amateur radio. Annual dues are \$35 for individual membership, \$45 for a family membership, and \$10 for students K-12. For information, send email to ebham.office@gmail.com, contact any EBARC officer, see Web page www.ebarc.org, or write EBARC, P.O. Box 1393, El Cerrito, CA 94530. You can also follow us on Twitter using @w6cus, or on Facebook's "East Bay Amateur Radio Club."

2024 East Bay Amateur Radio Club Executive Committee

Todd Teachout, W8BIK, President	510-799-6051
Jan Kuhl, AC5RB, Secretary.....	510-846-3829
Howdy Goudey, KE6BEE, 1 st VP / Program Chair	510-684-9097
Audrey Nieman, W6BBQ, / Membership Chair	510-682-7938
Audrey Nieman, W6BBQ, Treasurer / Finance Chair	510-682-7938

2024 EBARC's Other Committee Heads and Contacts

<i>Blown Fuse</i> Editor: Audrey Nieman, W6BBQ	510-682-7938
W6CUS Trustee Chris Harwood	510-332-7383
Webmasters: Chris & Isaac Harwood	510-332-7383

Bay Area Amateur Radio Nets

Net	Days	Time	PL	FREQ MHZ
Over the Hill Commuter CCCC	M-F	0710	82.5-	145.110
CCCC 220 Net	Tues	1930	82.5+	224.300
WC EMCOMM Net	Thu	1845	82.5	145.110
CCCC Evening Net	Thu	1930	82.5-	145.110
KARO/ECHO EMCOMM NET	Thu	1900	simplex	146.415
NALCO ARES EMCOMM Net	Thu	1915	77-	440.900
ORCA Net	Thu	1930	77	146.880
Bay Area EMCOMM Net	SAT	0900	82.5-	145.110
CCCC WC Net	Sat	0915	82.5-	224.300
Bay Area Comm Net	Sat	0930	82.5+	444.275
Cert FL Digi Net	Sat	1000	82.5+	444.275